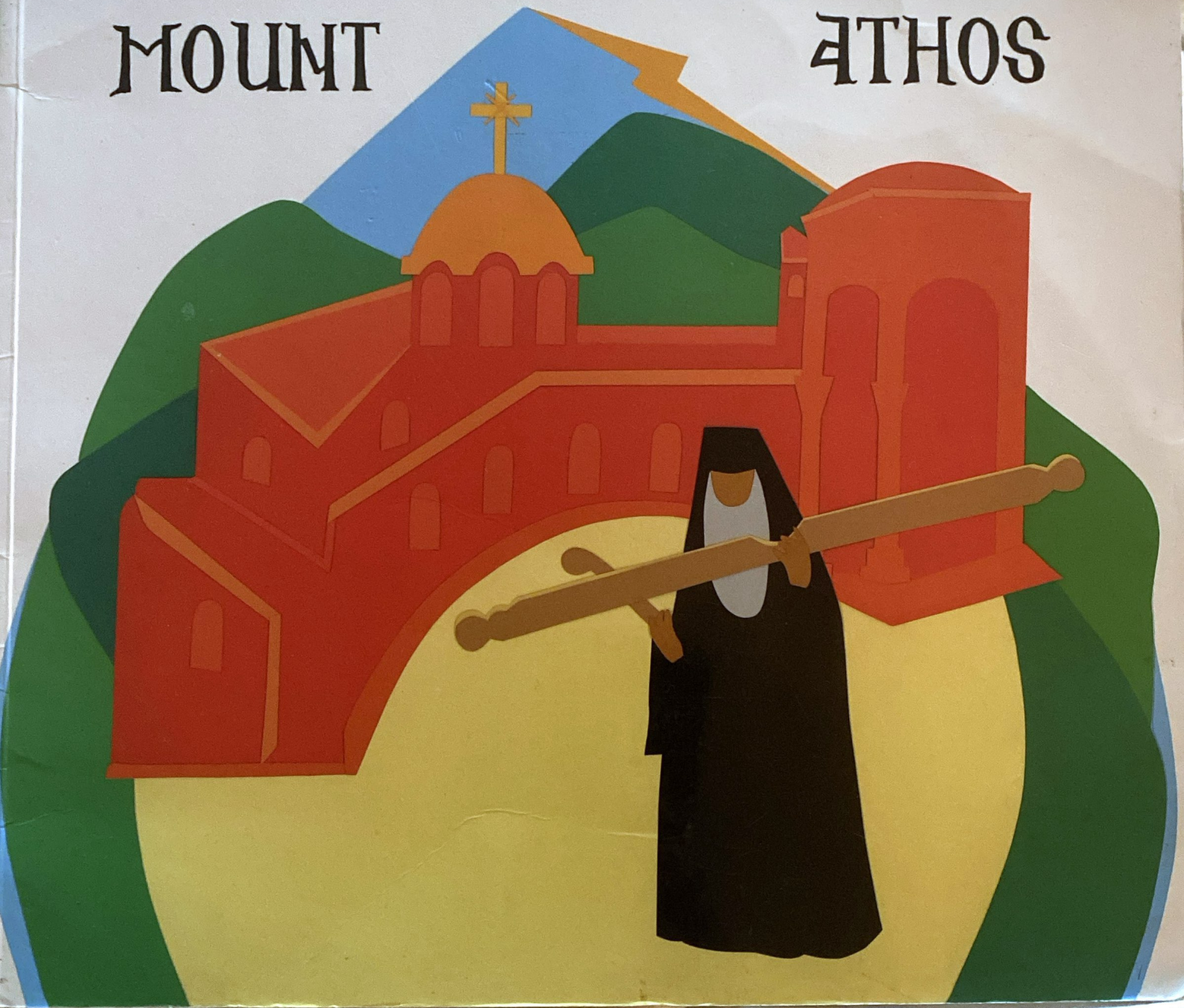
THE HOLY MONKS OF MOUNT ATHOS



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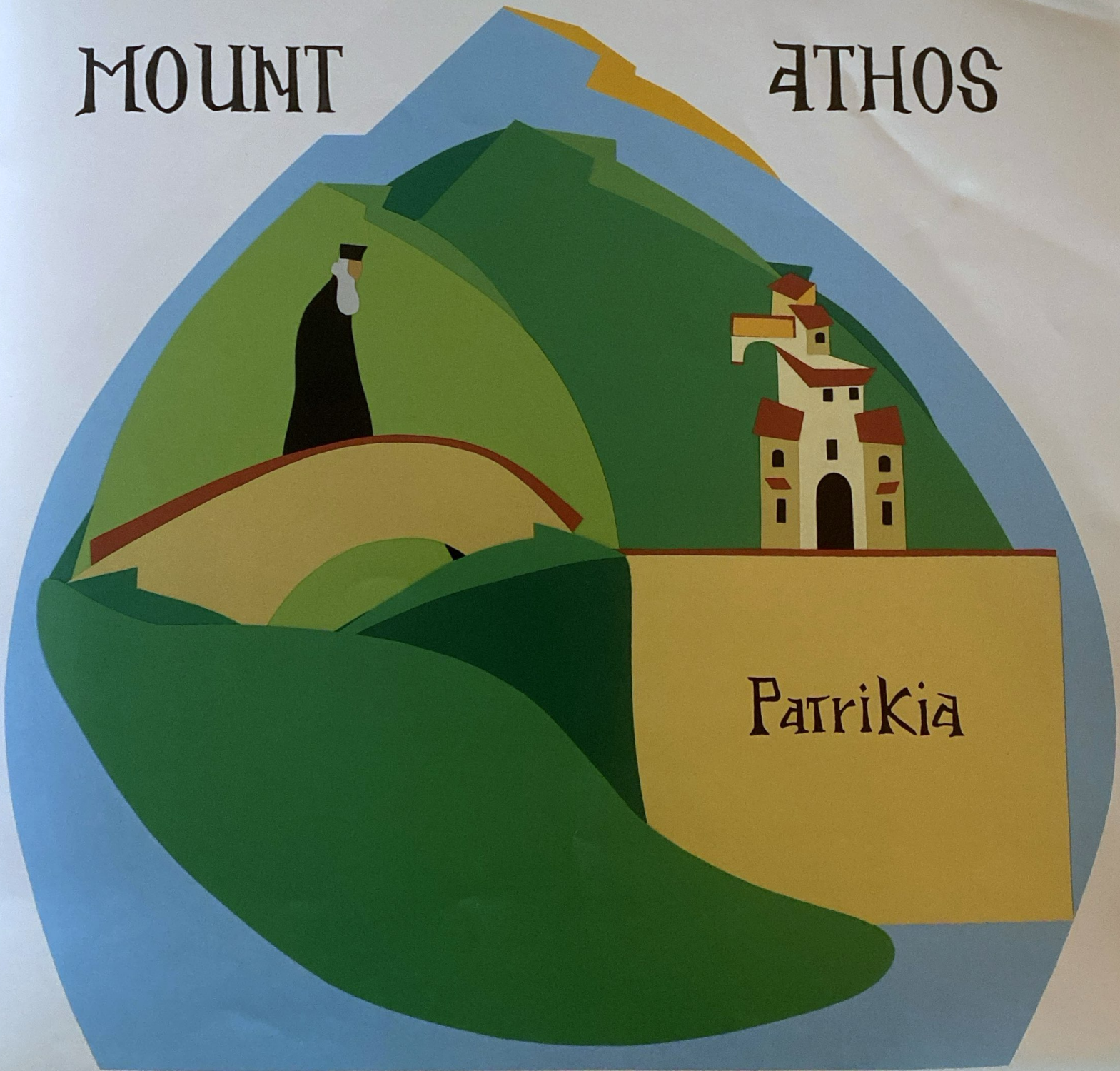

Dedicated to The Holy Monks of Mt. Athos

Cover Illustration
The Holy Monk tapping on a simandron.
This is the traditional way the Holy Monks are summoned to prayer signifying Noah knocking on the ark to summon the animals.

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High above the deep blue sea
upon a mountaintop in Greece

Hidden amongst the trees
and the caves

Live the Holy Monks of
Mt. Athos

and

Each day before the sun rises
all the Holy Monks awaken

and

You can hear their voices chanting
to God in heaven

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

When the Holy Monks begin their day after morning prayers

Some of the Holy Monks go to the gardens to plant and gather food

and

Other Holy Monks carve
crosses out of wood from the
trees of the forest

and

Still other Holy Monks go to the stone ovens to bake their daily bread

and

There are still other Holy Monks who climb down the mountainside to go fishing in the sea

and

Each day the Holy Monks bow
their heads in prayer for their
daily meals chanting to God

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Some of the Holy Monks who stay
upon the mountain

Craft by hand the prosphoron seal for
the bread offered for the Holy Eucharist

and

IC XC
NI KA

Other Holy Monks sew yards
of cloth to make the Holy Vestments

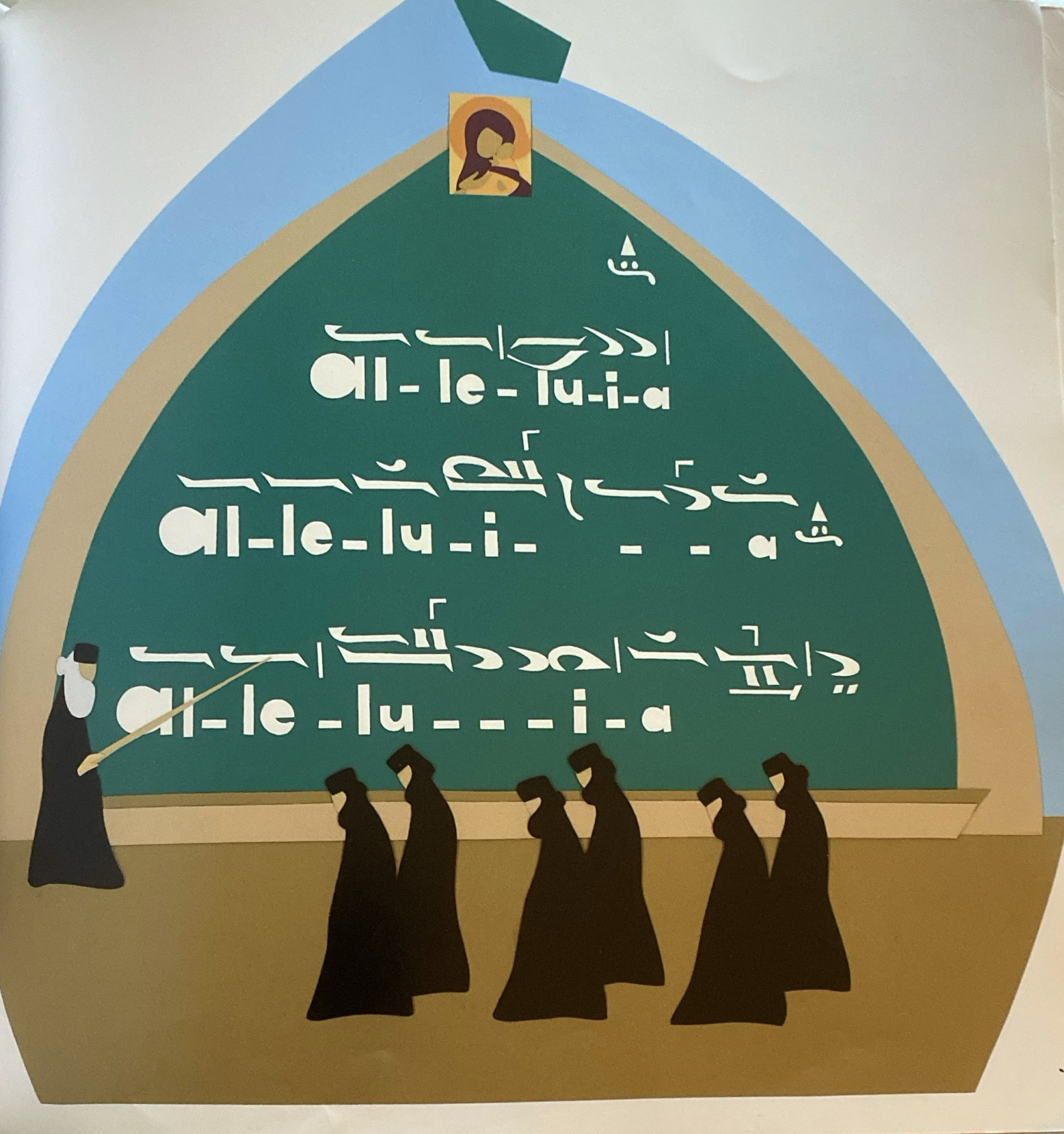
and

Still other Holy Monks
draw and paint the Holy Icons

and

There are still other novice Holy Monks
who learn to chant the
Holy Music of God

and


Al-le-lu-i-a
Al-le-lu-i-a
Al-le-lu---i-a

At the end of each day when night has fallen upon the Holy mountain

and

Before the Holy Monks lie down to go to sleep

You can hear their voices chanting in
the night to God in heaven

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Amen

About the Author

Patrikia, a nanny for newborns and older children by profession, shares her life as a part time student at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, studying Chant and New Testament Greek. She is the author and illustrator of The Holy Monks of Mt. Athos After receiving her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Art from Clark University, Worcester, MA, she has studied full time towards a degree in Theology at Providence College, RI, concentrating in Old Testament Studies and Hebrew; The Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, Brookline, MA, in Church Studies; and a course in writing and illustrating children's books at the Rhode Island School of Design. She is currently working on future children's books hoping to bring Orthodox Theology to all children's lives.

A portion of the author's proceeds will be used to purchase books for Orthodox children in third world countries.

About the Holy Monks of Mt. Athos

The Holy Monks of Mt. Athos brings a theological perspective to children's reading and visually expresses the profound spirituality of the Holy Monks' lives. It is a window into their most humble lifestyle. Unique portrayals of their daily routines are revealed in colorful iconographic style illustrations depicting how the Holy Monks live their lives in prayer and love of God.

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